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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/901,556
Applicant : Hötten et al.
Filed : September 24, 1999
TC/A.U. : 1646
Examiner : P. Mertz

Docket No. : 2923-286
Customer No. : 06449
Confirmation No. : 3191

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

July 26, 2004

Sir:

As requested in the Interview Summary mailed on July 14, 2004, this is a summary of the issues discussed during the July 8, 2004 telephone interview between applicant's representative and Examiner Mertz.

Claims 20-23, 30 and 33-35 were discussed during the interview.

Examiner Mertz indicated that the amendments which were submitted on June 17, 2004 would overcome the prior art rejections but not the enablement and written description rejections. She suggested that the claims be amended to recite "consisting of". Applicants agreed to amend claim 22 to recite "consists of" but pointed out that claims 33 and 35 recite a fragment and a smaller fragment and thus the language "consisting of" is not necessary. Applicants agreed to amend claims 33 and 35 to clarify that the smaller fragment is a part of the larger fragment.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fee for such an extension together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. C. Kitts', written over a horizontal line.

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